

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the abstract as indicated on the following page.

Please amend the paragraph at page 84, beginning at line 11 as follows:

mRNA is prepared from appropriate cell populations by the ~~FastTrack~~ FASTTRACK kit (Invitrogen) from which cDNA is generated using, e.g., ~~SuperScript~~ SUPERSCRIPT Plasmid System for cDNA synthesis from GIBCO-BRL (Gaithersburg, Md.) essentially as described by the manufacturer. Modification to the procedure may include the substitution of other cloning adapters for the SalI adapters provided with the kit. The resultant cDNA from these cells is used to generate libraries, e.g., in the plasmid PCDNA II (~~Invitrogen~~ INVITROGEN). The cDNA is cloned into the polylinker and is used to transform an appropriate strain, e.g., DH10B, of E. coli. Plasmid is isolated and purified, e.g., with the ~~Qiagen~~ QIAGEN system (Chatsworth, Calif.) which is used to generate RNA probes from, e.g., the SP6 promoter.

Please amend the paragraph at page 85, beginning at line 19 as follows:

Poly(A)⁺ RNA is isolated from appropriate cell populations, e.g., using the ~~FastTrack~~ FASTTRACK mRNA isolation kit (~~Invitrogen~~ INVITROGEN, San Diego, Calif.). Samples are electrophoresed, e.g., in a 1% agarose gel containing formaldehyde and transferred to a ~~GeneScreen~~ GENESCREEN nylon membrane (NEN Research Products, Boston, Mass.). Hybridization is performed, e.g., at 65°C in 0.5 M NaHPO₄ pH 7.2, 7% SDS, 1 mM EDTA, and 1% BSA (fraction V) with ³²P-dCTP labeled monocyte gene cDNA at 10⁷ cpm/ml. After hybridization filters are washed three times at 50°C in 0.2xSSC, 0.1% SDS, and exposed to film for 24 h.